

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY CONFERENCE ROOM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2005

6 PM

CHAIRMAN: KEN ALLEN
VICE CHAIRMAN: MARION WRIGHT
ADMINISTRATOR: ANNA K. HUBBARD
COUNTY ATTORNEY: DONNIE MCDONALD

COUNCIL: JEAN MCLEAN, JEFF QUICK,
MICKEY ROGERS, * CORRIE H. PLATO,
* DR. CAROLYN PRINCE, KEN ALLEN,
EDMOND BLUE, AND MARION WRIGHT

* ABSENT

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF WILLIAM C. SIMON

Chairman Ken Allen recognized Sheriff William C. Simon for his many years of public service and Sheriff Simon's gun and badge to him.

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. James Williamson, NETC President – addressed County Council with an update of progress at the Marlboro County Satellite Site. He said the campus has grown so that the part-time staff has been upgraded to full-time. He said no additional funds will be requested from the county this year, the request is the same as last year. He updated on the Marlboro County Rural Workforce Development project. Money was received from the Department of Commerce to help train citizens for jobs. The training program lasted for nine weeks. The first eighteen students have graduated and are

ready to start training for the Mohawk/Oak River jobs. He advised that a job fair was held and six different industries came and were interested in their program. He said that Marlboro County had provided the labor to get the mobile units ready and they appreciated the help.

He also advised that NETC has been awarded the Palmetto Project Award. This will be presented at the Governors Rural Summit in March. It will be a model for other counties. The Workforce Development Board has agreed to help them with funding for the next round.

He advised that the Department of Commerce has been in consultation with the Magic Johnson Foundation. Magic Johnson has invested a lot of money in empowerment centers. The Department of Commerce has requested that Magic Johnson consider doing things in some rural areas of South Carolina. Magic Johnson has agreed to fund an empowerment center for Marlboro County. The empowerment centers focus on a variety of things – after school learning programs and workforce development job readiness. Marlboro County's will focus on the workforce development. The foundation has committed \$250,000 toward the center; the Department of Commerce has committed \$100,000. This money will allow NETC to provide a state of the art learning center for Workforce readiness. He said that Magic Johnson may visit in July when the center will be open.

Ms. Helen Palmer, EOC – was not present.

Mr. David Myers, Audit Report – made a presentation of the Audit Report for Marlboro County completed through June 30, 2004. He stated that the County was in good financial condition at the end of June with approximately six months of reserves. Mr. Myers advised they normally recommend that a government have at least two months of available resources. He summarized various sections of the audit report.

Mr. Donnie McDonald, County Attorney asked if Mr. Myers had found any problems that need to be mentioned. Mr. Myers advised he did not make any additional recommendations. Mr. McDonald asked him to clarify prior recommendations – there are some new Council members. Mr. Myers advised the issues were some monies in the Clerk's Office which seems to be addressed, and need for additional accounting expertise in the Treasurer's office – though the Treasurer has obtained additional help – it is not the level of expertise in accounting he had in mind. He has been pleased with the progress the County has made in keeping its books in the six years he has been auditing them. He said things are moving smoothly in the accounting area of the Administration Office. He was very pleased with the changes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JANUARY 6, 2005 & JANUARY 13, 2005

Motion made by Mr. Marion Wright, seconded by Mrs. Jean McLean approving the minutes of January 6, 2005. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Mrs. Jean McLean, seconded by Mr. Edmond Blue approving the minutes of January 13, 2005. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE # 589 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CONVEYANCE OF EASEMENTS TO MARLBORO WATER COMPANY UNDER THE COUNTY RAILROAD AND ALONG THE RIGHTS OF WAY OF CERTAIN COUNTY HIGHWAYS AND ROADS.

No discussion was heard.

ORDINANCE # 590 – AN ORDINANCE FOR SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FROM SPECIAL FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW RADIO CONSOLES FOR E-911.

Ms. Hubbard discussed briefly.

Mr. Ken Allen declared the Public Hearing Closed.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 589 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CONVEYANCE OF EASEMENTS TO MARLBORO WATER COMPANY UNDER THE RAILROAD AND ALONG THE RIGHTS OF WAY OF CERTAIN COUNTY HIGHWAYS AND ROAD - THIRD READING.

Motion made by Mr. Edmond Blue, seconded by Mr. Jeff Quick approving the third reading of Ordinance # 589 – An Ordinance to approve the conveyance of easements to Marlboro Water Company under the railroad and along the rights of way of certain county highways and roads. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE # 590 – AN ORDINANCE FOR SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FROM SPECIAL FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW RADIO CONSOLES FOR E-911 SECOND READING

Motion made by Mr. Marion Wright, seconded by Mrs. Jean McLean approving the second reading of Ordinance # 590 – An Ordinance for Supplemental Appropriation from Special Funds for the purchase of new radio consoles for E-911. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Ken Allen, Chairman read the letter of recommendation from Mr. Hubert Meggs recommending Mr. Butch Mills as Executive Director of Economic Development Partnership

Board. Ms. Anna Hubbard, County Administrator advised that Mr. Mills would be hired as an employee, not by contract. She briefed Council on Mr. Mills's background.

Motion made by Mr. Edmond Blue, seconded by Mrs. Jean McLean approving hiring Mr. Butch Mills as the Director of Economic Development Partnership. Vote in Favor: Mr. Ken Allen, Mr. Edmond Blue, Mr. Jeff Quick, Mrs. Jean McLean and Mr. Marion Wright. Abstain: Mrs. Mickey Rogers. Vote 5/1. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION # 05-02-01 – TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN CLEMSON UNIVERSITY AND MARLBORO COUNTY FOR EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR THE COUNTY AGRICULTURE RESPONSE TEAM FOR SLED (CLEMSON UNIVERSITY TO PROVIDE THE EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES).

Ms. Hubbard discussed briefly. Council members were in agreement the items should be stored for easy access to first responders. Ms. Hubbard advised the 911 Director would handle the disbursement.

Motion made by Mr. Jeff Quick, seconded by Mr. Marion Wright approving Resolution 05-02-01 – a Resolution to approve a memorandum of agreement between Clemson University and Marlboro County for equipment and supplies for the County Agriculture Response team for SLED (Clemson University to provide the equipment & supplies). Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION # 05-02-02 – A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FINAL PROJECT QUANTITIES FOR RUNWAY LIGHT CABLE REPLACEMENT AT COUNTY AIRPORT.

Ms. Hubbard discussed briefly. Funds were available through FAA along with the State Department of Aeronautics along with a county match. During the project, several runway light fixtures were found inoperable which required replacement of lamps and secondary cords with some lights having to be completely replaced. This was covered by the grant funds.

Motion made by Mr. Marion Wright, seconded by Mr. Jeff Quick approving Resolution # 05-02-02 – A Resolution to approve final project quantities for runway light cable replacement at County airport. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion Carried.

BIDS

REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF EAST SIDE OF COUNTY COURTHOUSE MOLDING AND WOODWORK

Bids were received from Sunbelt Roofing - \$9,155.00, Franklin Hancock - \$22,000.00, Randy Earl Medlin - \$6,828.00 and CBL Constructors, Inc. - \$7,495.00. Staff recommended the low bid of Randy Earl Medlin.

Motion made by Mr. Edmond Blue, seconded by Mr. Marion Wright to accept the bid for repair and replacement of east side of County Courthouse molding and woodwork from Mr. Randy Earl Medlin for the amount of \$6,828.00. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

CRUSH AND RUN FOR COUNTY ROADS

Bids were received from Vulcan Material Company, W.C. Lundy - \$49,996.49 for Total Tons 5549 and McDuffie Contractors - \$50,000.00 for Total Tons 5605.50. Staff Recommended McDuffie Contractors as the most advantageous bid and noted they were also a local vendor.

Motion was made by Mrs. Jean McLean, seconded by Mrs. Mickey Rogers to accept the bid for Crush and Run for County roads from McDuffie Contractors for the amount of \$50,000.00 for total tons of 5605.40. Vote in Favor. Unanimous. Motion Carried.

UPDATE ON LAND PURCHASE REQUEST (JENNINGS STREET PROPERTY)

Ms. Hubbard briefed Council. She advised we have the original appraisal which is three years old and recommended that the county obtain an updated appraisal. She advised the cost should be included in the sale price to the proposed buyer. The issue would be placed on the agenda as soon as the updated appraisal is obtained. The County attorney advised the conveyance would require three readings by ordinance. Everyone was in agreement.

APPOINTMENTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Council was advised that PDRTA has requested that Reverend Charles Malloy be replaced on the Transportation Board. This needs to be taken into consideration for the next monthly meeting. Council was also advised a recommendation has been received requesting that Mr. Greg Ross be placed on the Economic Development Partnership Board in place of Mr. Dennis Porzio.

Motion made by Mr. Marion Wright, seconded by Mrs. Jean McLean to approve the appointment of Mr. Greg Ross to the Marlboro County Economic Development Partnership Board to replace Mr. Dennis Porzio. Vote in Favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE - Mrs. Jean McLean presented the Recreation Committee report. She advised the committee had met the previous day along with Anthony Woods, Parks and Recreation Director. Parks and Recreation cut approximately 10 to 11 parks (including City property). The committee plans to meet with city officials at the beginning of March to discuss the continuation of these services. Mr. Jeff Quick advised that he along with Mrs. McLean attended the Recreation Commission Board meeting the previous evening. He stated they had

observed some problems – which board members are actually involved in the sports and at times it may not be possible for them to attend the board meeting. He suggested Council consider appointing alternates to attend if necessary. The County Attorney advised the Ordinance would have to be revised or they would not have voting rights. It was suggested a designee attend the meeting and take information back to the Commission member. Voting could be postponed until the following meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Mr. Marion Wright advised the committee would be meeting again shortly. It was requested that Ms. Jane Rogers be invited to the meeting. He was in agreement.

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCIAL REPORT – ANNA K. HUBBARD, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Hubbard presented the Administrative/Financial Report.

The emergency 911 radio consoles are scheduled to be installed before the end of the fiscal year. The 911 Director has met with the agencies involved and the project is moving forward.

Ms. Hubbard briefed the Council on the image campaign the Partnership is involved with – with Marlboro Electric Co-op. Staff is moving forward coordinating welcome sign replacement with this campaign. Funds were allocated to begin replacement of welcome signs during this budget year. Semaphore, the firm coordinating the Image Campaign, has been contacted and is working on a design for the welcome signs to integrate the signs with the Image campaign.

An I-73 meeting is scheduled today and tomorrow, February 10th and 11th. Council member Jeff Quick plans to attend along with Mr. Meggs, Mr. Fleming, and Mr. Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton is still a representative for the county on this project.

Ms. Hubbard requested Council's concurrence on placement of the Sundial on the corner of Marlboro Street and Main Street. This would allow visibility from Main Street and reduce the possibility of vandalism. Council concurred.

Council was updated on the Mohawk expansion project. The design for the county portion of the rail line is complete. The engineers for the county are ready to bid. Mohawk has requested that the county postpone bid requests until their on-site design of rail line is complete so that the entire rail upgrade project can be bid at one time. The county agreed to wait per Mr. Steve Power's of Mohawk's request.

Grant funds have been received for the Hairetown project. Wallace Water will be reimbursed for the work completed within the next few days.

Ms. Hubbard and the Public Works Committee have met with Mr. Asmonga of Waste Management in reference to a proposed Waste Management Transfer Station in the Wallace area. Ms. Hubbard is expecting additional information from him in the near future.

Ms. Hubbard met with Alliance Consulting Group to discuss updating the Solid Waste Management Plan for Marlboro County. The information they have requested is being compiled and the update is moving forward.

Ms. Hubbard asked Council to advise what action should be taken, if any, regarding the request made by the City of Bennettsville at the last Council worksession for a special tax assessment Ordinance for Historic properties.

Ms. Linda Boone Smith has requested to make a presentation to Council at the next meeting to update Council on the Eastern South Carolina Alliance progress. Marlboro County is presently a member of this alliance.

Sheriff Knight has requested additional funds for operating purposes through June 30th. Ms. Hubbard received the information prior to Council meeting. She will forward the information to Council for consideration at the March meeting. Sheriff Knight will be invited to discuss his request.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST

No comments.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Edmond Blue asked what Council is going to do about the Library. He said there needed to be a decision made. Mr. Ken Allen, Chairman asked Mr. Blue who was present representing the Library Board. Mr. Blue said he wanted it on the Agenda. Mr. Blue was advised by Mr. Allen that it would be discussed later.

Mrs. Jean McLean recognized Mr. Sidney Wallace, Public Works Director who had been employed with Marlboro County since February 10, 1975 – thirty years to the date. Everyone thanked him for his many years of service.

Mr. Marion Wright advised Council that Mr. Roy Allison, 911 Director, has been attending Church Group meetings in Clio and speaking to them about the purpose of 911 and how it works. He said citizens have a lot of questions concerning 911 and Mr. Allison has done an excellent job of explaining it.

Mrs. Mickey Rogers said the troops would be coming home in a few weeks sometime around lunch time (not sure yet as to the definite time). She wanted to know if it were possible for County employees to go out and welcome them. Council was advised we will have a banner.

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Mrs. Rogers also requested that we put out red, white, and blue balloons. Everyone was agreeable.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further discussion. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes were adopted March 10, 2005

Susan E. Rivers, Clerk to Council